

11 SEP 2003

MIC SUPPORTS DR MAHATHIR'S STAND OVER WEEKLY

KULIM, Sept 11 (bernama) -- The MIC supports Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's stand not to grant an interview to the New-York-based "Business Week", party president Datuk Seri S.Samy Vellu said today.

He said he believed that the business weekly had an agenda to discredit developing countries like Malaysia which had gained the respect of the world.

"Dr Mahathir is not a leader who will bow to threats because in the more than 20 years at the helm of the country he had shown himself to be firm in his stand," he told reporters after opening the Dewan Hindu Sabha here.

The prime minister's firmness had earned Malaysia the respect of other countries, he said.

He was commenting on Dr Mahathir's statement yesterday that he had received a letter from Business Week threatening to write negative things about him and Malaysia if he refused to entertain its request for an interview.

Dr Mahathir had that he had no wish to be interviewed "because the last time they did, they told a lot of lies."

-- BERNAMA

AP AP JK